It comprises members from different Ministries including Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources and other organizations.

The main objectives of this Mission are :—

(i) to evolve a strategy based on technology which could provide for low cost power generation and low cost of delivery in the rural areas which can be managed by local institutions like Village Panchayats and NGOs;

(ii) identify feasible size of generating units for different fuels, which are locally available, and for mini and micro hydel projects;

(iii) suggest type of technologies to be adopted for setting up local distribution networks with or without connectivity to the Grid and to cover at least 25% of the villages in the country under the Mission, and

(iv) to access funds requirements for the next two Plans.

(d) REST Mission has identified biomass gasification, Solar Photo Voltaic Cells and generating sets based on locally available fuels as the feasibe technology for villages and household electrification.

(e) Under section (4) of the Electricity Act, 2003, National policy for distributed generation (Stand along System) including those based on renewable sources of energy and other non-conventional sources of energy is to be notified in consultation with the State Governments. Implementation under REST Mission depends on notification of the above policy.

Revival of D.RC.

177. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

SHRI N.R. DASARI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal to revive the Dabhol Power Company; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) Since closure of the Dabhol

power project in May, 2001 following contractual disputes between the Maharashtra State Electricity Board and M/s. Dabhol Power Company, numerous efforts have been made to facilitate revival of the project by the Ministry of Power, Ministry of Finance, Indian Financial Institutions led by Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) and Government of Maharashtra (GOM). The latest initiative has been the constitutions of an Informal Advisory Committee (IAC) by the Ministry of Finance to evolve a strategy to restructure and revive the project. The Ministry of Finance have informed that the Committee has discussed the various issues with the concerned stake holders and is considering alternative approaches to restructure and revive the project. A specific proposal has not been finalized in this regard.

IAY houses for SCs/STs and weaker sections in Himachal Pradesh

178. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people belonging to SC/ST and Other Weaker sections who have been provided housing facilities under the Indira Awas Yojana in Himachal Pradesh during the last five years, year-wise, district-wise and community-wise; and

(b) whether it is a fact that there are many such poor families in the State who have not been considered for such facilities, if so, the details thereof and the reasons for ignoring them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI U.V. KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) A statement showing District-wise details of houses constructed druing 1998-99 and 1999-2000 and District-wise and Community-wise details of houses constructed/upgraded in Himachal Pradesh from 2000-2001 to 2002-2003 is annexed. (See below).

(b) The beneficiaries under the Scheme are selected by the Gram Sabha out of the list of eligible BPL families as per the provision given in the guidelines of the Scheme. Within the given resources, it has not been possible to cover all the eligible beneficiaries.